

## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A recording apparatus for generating an index file for each content file to be recorded to a recording medium, the index file associating attribute information allocated to each content file with real data of said each content file, and recording the generated index file to the recording medium,

the apparatus comprising an information adding unit for generating a flag indicating a recording state of a content file to be recorded to the recording medium and adding this flag to the attribute information,

wherein the information adding unit generates the flag in accordance with a physical area in which the index file can be continuously recorded, before said each content file is recorded first to the recording medium.

2. The recording apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein before said each content file is recorded first to the recording medium, the information adding unit generates the flag in accordance with all physical areas in which the index file can be continuously recorded.

3. A recording apparatus for generating an index file for each content file to be recorded to a recording medium, the index file associating attribute information allocated to each content file with real data of said each content file, and recording the generated index file to the recording medium,

the apparatus comprising an information adding unit for generating a flag indicating a recording state of a content file to be recorded to the recording medium and adding this flag to the attribute information,

wherein before said each content file is recorded first to the recording medium, the information adding unit generates the flag in accordance with a physical area in which the index file can be continuously recorded, and

the information adding unit also searches the recording medium for a free area in which the index file can be continuously recorded in accordance with the recording state of said each content file with respect to the recording medium and generates the flag in accordance with the free area thus searched for.

4. The recording apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein the information adding unit newly records the index file having the attribute information to which the flag generated in accordance with the searched-out free area is added, to the recording medium.

5. A recording method for generating an index file for each content file to be recorded to a recording medium, the index file associating attribute information allocated to each content file with real data of said each content file, and recording the generated index file to the recording medium,

wherein before said each content file is recorded first to the recording medium, a flag indicating a recording state of a content file is generated in accordance with a physical area in which the index file can be continuously recorded, and the flag is added to the attribute information.

6. The recording method as claimed in claim 5, wherein before said each content file is recorded first to the recording medium, the flag is generated in accordance with all physical areas in which the index file can be continuously recorded.

7. A recording method for generating an index file for each content file to be recorded to a recording medium, the index file associating attribute information allocated to each content file with real data of said each content file, and recording the generated index file to the recording medium,

wherein before said each content file is recorded first to the recording

medium, a flag indicating a recording state of a content file is generated in accordance with a physical area in which the index file can be continuously recorded, and this flag is added to the attribute information, and

the recording medium is searched for a free area in which the index file can be continuously recorded in accordance with the recording state of said each content file with respect to the recording medium, then the flag is generated in accordance with the free area thus searched for, and this flag is added to the attribute information.

8. The recording method as claimed in claim 7, wherein the index file having the attribute information to which the flag generated in accordance with the searched-out free area is added is newly recorded to the recording medium.